SEYSSEL ASPHALTE.—A few weeks since a paragraph appeared in one paper, which stated that during the very hot days the asphalte laid down in the streets of Manchester had actually become so soft, as to render it a nuisance to those persons who had to walk over it. Since, however, the above article appeared in print, we have learnt that the material so affected was not real asphalte; and we deem it fair, therefore, to state, that portions of the pavements of this town, which were laid down eight years ago with Seyssel Asphalte by Claridge's Company, were uninjured by the heat.—*Liverpool Standard.*

ARE ARCHITECTS ONLY TO COPY?—It is a humiliating truth, but truth nevertheless, that very low views—utterly derogatory to it as art—are entertained of architecture, both by those who follow it as a profession and by the public. For the latter there is more excuse than for the former; since, if they are ignorant, it is because they are uninstructed—kept in ignorance by those who, at least, ought to be able to inform them better. The mere bluster of fine phrases and pompous words, put forth by way of asserting the claims of architecture, very ill disguises the degrading fact that, as a fine art, it is held to have been long ago so completely worn out, that nothing is now left for it but to mimic—with what ability it may—the efforts of its palmier days, when it was permitted to indulge its native impulses, uncontrolled by the fetters of all-enslaving PRECEDENT. However they may differ in other respects, servility is alike the badge of all—of the "Goth" as of the "Greek," of the "Greek" as of the "Goth." The universal *refrain* is, Copy, copy!—Accordingly, copying is made the alpha and omega of the art; and the public—that is, the thinking part of it—wonder very justly that architecture, advanced as it has been to the merely mechanical, should rank as a fine art at all.—*Lamb's "Studies of Ancient Domestic Architecture."*

THE MEEANEE COLUMN.—We understand that preparations are going forward for having the Meeanee Column cast in Calcutta, and that 44 brass guns of various sizes, have been sent from Scinde for the purpose. The column is to be 130 feet in height, including the plinth, base, shaft, capital, and a figure of Britannia, 19 feet in height, which, with a pedestal of 7 feet, is to surmount the whole. The design was drawn by Colonel Waddington, of the Bombay Engineers. The column is to be of the florid Corinthian order, and its shaft 60 feet in height, and 7 feet in diameter. The figure will be of brass gilt. This column is destined to adorn Bombay, and will, as we hear, be erected on the esplanade near the Wellesley statue.—*India paper.*

NEWLY-PAINTED HOUSES.—An American physician attributes the deaths of several members of his family to living in newly-painted houses, the effect of which engenders disease of the lungs.

MARBLE FROM HAVANNAH.—The arrival at St. Katharine's Docks of a new sort of importation from Havannah, in the shape of nine blocks of marble, is announced.

NEW CHURCH IN CHARLOTTE-STREET, FITZROY-SQUARE.—The church of St. John the Evangelist, in Charlotte-street, erected from the designs of Mr. Hugh Smith, Bedford-row, was consecrated on Thursday last.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, ST. JOHN'S WOOD.—This church was consecrated by the Bishop of London on the 9th instant. We propose to give an engraving and description of it shortly.

CHELSEA BRIDGE.—The Chelsea Bridge and Embankment Bill was read a second time on Tuesday last.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

[We are compelled, by the interference of the Stamp Office, to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c. are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers, however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the office of "The Builder," 2, York-street, Covent-Garden.]

For lighting the parish of Paddington for three, five, or seven years with gas.

For repairing Stogumber Church, Somersetshire.

For the construction of a warehouse at Liverpool.

For three miles of six-inch cold blast iron water-pipe for the town-council of Bath.

For one mile and a half of five-inch cold blast iron water-pipe for the town-council of Bath.

For the disposal of an old-established builders and carpenter's business at Trowbridge.

For the erection of an addition to the House of Correction at Swansea.

For the erection of a prison, including a Court House and court accommodation, keepers' and other apartments, boundary walls, &c., at Fort William, in the county of Inverness.

For the earth work necessary to complete the widening of the Arbroath and Forfar railway.

For the masonry work necessary to complete the widening of the Arbroath and Forfar railway.

For other work necessary to complete the widening of the Arbroath and Forfar railway.

For raising the turnpike-road leading from Upton-upon-Severn towards Hanley Castle to a level with the present footpath.

For the paving of 300 tons of Scotch granite in the street of Claypath, in the county of Durham (promptly).

For the disposal of an ironmonger's business established upwards of 40 years.

For the re-erection of the house of the feoffees of the Stroud Charities.

For the erection of a lock-up house at Witterisham.

For the erection of a lock-up house and police house at Loddon, Norfolk.

For the disposal of an extensive trade in the plumbing, glazing, and painting line, established at Faversham for nearly a century.

For the erection of a free church at Kirkwall, Orkney.

For the disposal of an iron staircase, 40 feet in height, and of light and elegant construction, at Piccadilly.

For the superintendence, by a clerk of works, of the erection of the fever hospital of the Fermoy Poor Law Union, Ireland; remuneration limited to a maximum of £70 (promptly.)

For 400 tons of limestone at Cork.

For the re-erection of the Great West Window of the nave of Leominster parish church.

For the masonry work of a new church, Upperthong, Holmfirth.

For the carpenter work of Upperthong church.

For the slater and other work of Upperthong church.

For the erection of a new barn near Newcastle-on-Tyne.

For the erection of an inn at Wittonby, Darlington.

For iron work and apparatus, consisting of retorts, purifiers, condenser, meter, &c., &c., for the West Ham Gas Works at Stratford.

For the transfer of a plumber's, glazier's, and painter's business, established for many years in Preston.

For the erection of the buildings and works necessary for the Crediton Station, of the Exeter and Crediton Railway.

For the sale or letting of a bed of clay in Liverpool.

For the erection of a new station and lock-up house at Wrexham.

For the employment of 200 masons by the contractors for the Cork and Bandon Railway.

For taking down and rebuilding the Stockwell-street bridge at Glasgow.

For the erection of new vestry rooms and offices for the vestrymen of St. Pancras, Middlesex.

For the transfer of a painter's business (in town). Profits about 250*l.* per annum.

For supplying her Majesty's several dockyards with red and yellow pine timber, rock elm timber, spruce deals, &c.

For one or two cast-iron tanks, with or without gas-holders, and ready for immediate delivery.

For a considerable quantity of rain-water pipe.

For five tons weight of hot-water pipe.

For the disposal of the machinery of a saw-mill at Liverpool, with lathes, planing machine, benches, &c.

For the erection and completion of a cast-iron tank and gas-holder at the West Ham Gas Works at Stratford.

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c.

BY AUCTION.

At Liverpool: 8,835 logs of pencil cedar from New Orleans, 650 logs Cuba mahogany, 1,500 large lancewood spars, and 276 Rio rosewood planks.

At Birmingham: 2,300 feet of stout oak slabs, 1,500 feet of 1½ inch oak plank, 900 feet of 1 inch and 2 inch oak board, &c.

At Liverpool: a periodical sale of mahogany and other fine woods.

At Osborne-street, Hull: the building and other materials of two houses.

At Halstead: 500 oak trees.

At Southampton: 1,200 seasoned Memel and Petersburg deals and battens, also 2,100 red and white Norway deals and battens, and 25 loads of Norway die square timber.

At Liverpool: the stock in trade of a nail-maker.

At Newcastle-on-Tyne, the building materials of the Royal Agricultural Society's cattle yard and Pavilion: also,

At Newcastle-on-Tyne: a quantity of colonial cottages, adapted for hunting-boxes, or emigrants, and a quantity of iron hurdles.

At Bermondsey, New-road: a valuable stock of timber.

At Park-road, Liverpool: the stock in trade of a general ironmonger.

At 55, Church-street, Liverpool: an elegant assortment of flock, satin, oak, gothic, and other new patterned paper hangings.

At Islington: two brick built carcases in a forward state of completion.

At Ovingham boat-house (by Newcastle): several hundred oak trees.

At Datchett, Bucks: 56 large elm trees.

At Whittingham, East Lothian, Scotland: a quantity of peeled oak and ash cut wood, 8 to 10 inches on the side.

At Gas street, Aberdeen: the whole works and plant of the Aberdeen Gas-light Company, in complete working order.

At Leith: a cargo of yellow pine, birch, and deals.

At Holkham: 2,500 large oak, ash, &c., poles, and 9 large sycamore trees.

At 87, Brick-lane, St. Luke's: an extensive builder's stock, with a 36-horse power steam-engine, sawing machinery, forge-bellows, smith's tools, &c., &c.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*J. Houston.*" Is he certain that Mr. Turner designed the conservatories in question?

"*J. B. F.*" Weale has published a "Drawing Book for Students in Architecture, &c." (36 plates), but we cannot say if it be good or bad.

"*T. Square,*" (*Bristol*). Write to the Secretary, 16, Grosvenor-street, for a form.

"*W. C.*" Thanks. We shall hope to see some results of the trip.

"*W. B.*" The drawing is scarcely precise enough for our purpose. We are seeking some engraved view of the church by which to alter it.

"*Mr. C.*" We are obliged, and will endeavour, notwithstanding the distance to attend.

"*Blackburn Exchange Buildings.*" The decision of the Committee in the competition is asked for by several.

"*G. H.*" (*St. James's-place,*) shall hear from us.

"*A. B. C.*" You must give notice to the district surveyor.

Next week.—Mr. Warrington.

*** The length to which the article on "Kitchen Arrangements" extends, forces us to postpone several articles.

Received.—"Original Subscribers." Beckmann's "History of Inventions," translated by Johnston, forming part of "Bohn's Standard Library," (Bohn, York-street, Covent Garden). An admirable series of surpassing cheapness. "Bidder's Table," shewing the contents of excavations, to facilitate the estimating of public works. (Maynard, Earl's-court, Cranbourne-street, London). "Patent Journal." No. VII.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

JEPHSON GARDENS:—A Premium of Twenty-five Pounds will be awarded by the Trustees of these Gardens to the person who shall produce the best set of PLANS, accompanied with a specification for laying them out. A Premium of Ten Pounds will be awarded for the second best plan. The ground consists of about eleven acres of land, which it is intended to convert into an ornamental garden and pleasure-ground. The plans upon which the premiums are awarded, will become the property of the trustees. All plans must be accompanied with an estimate of the probable cost.

A lithographic ground-plan may be seen at the office of Mr. OWEN WHITE, Honorary Secretary, Lower Parade, Leamington; of whom, also, further particulars may be obtained. The plans to be delivered to the secretary on or before Saturday, the 15th day of August, 1846.—By order,

OWEN WHITE, Honorary Secretary.

Leamington, June 25, 1846.

TO BUILDERS, PAINTERS, DECORATORS, AND OTHERS.

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*** An Apprentice wanted.

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MESSRS. HINCHLIFF and Company avail themselves of the earliest opportunity to acquaint their Friends and the Trade that they have, in compliance with their wish, opened a spacious warehouse at 123, Wardour-street, Oxford-street, where they will always have ready a large stock of every description of style and pattern at the lowest prices possible; they will also have a selection of the most splendid decorations of French and other designs.

ARCHITECTURAL ENRICHMENTS.—BIELEFELD'S improved PAPIER MACHE, which has been almost universally adopted for architectural decorations, has been patronised by her Majesty, by the Hon. Commissioners of Board of Works, by the highest of the Nobility and Gentry, and by the most eminent architects of the day. It has been used at the Royal Palaces, at the present House of Lords at Drayton Manor, the new Conservative Club House, &c., also at the British Museum, and Pantheon Bazaar, where it has been extensively used for some years, and an inspection will sufficiently establish its superiority over every other kind of composition both for beauty and durability. Designs prepared for the decoration of ceilings, panelling of walls, &c. A volume of enrichments, containing more than 1,000 designs of the papier mache ornaments with a tariff of prices, price 1*l.* Works, 15, Wellington-street, North, Strand.

TO OWNERS of HOUSES and Landed Property.—It is important to those who wish to dispose of property to know that Messrs. BECKWITH and SALMON have a system of business peculiar to themselves, by which they effect the speedy sale of every description of property by PRIVATE CONTRACT, and that without any risk to their clients, as they make no charge whatever until a sale is effected; and this they also carry out in cases where it may be deemed necessary to submit property to public auction. The immense sales of property effected by Beckwith and Salmon have given the utmost satisfaction to their patrons, and, at the same time, caused the envy of some of the lower grade of agents, who have resorted to the mean subterfuge of copying the language of their advertisements, in order to catch the unwary, among which stands the most prominent, the words "Quick Disposal of House Property," &c. It is deemed necessary to give this caution, in order that persons may not be missed.

BECKWITH and SALMON, Auctioneers, Land-agents, and Surveyors, 25, Buckleersbury.

ORNAMENTAL IRON STAIRCASE TO BE DISPOSED OF at a great sacrifice having been recently made for a gentleman's mansion, and not now required, consisting of twenty-nine steps fitted with ornamental cast-iron heads, and risers full three-eighths in thickness, perforated with quatrefoils in panels, moulded nosings, and open bracket ends, framed on wrought iron carriages at 3 inches by 1 inch. The plan is formed of twenty-two steps framed in one piece, three winders to quarter space, turning to the left, and four risers above, measuring 13 feet in height but being formed in two parts it may be lowered and 3 feet wide, with 9 inch tread of steps, and risers of 9 inches. This staircase is well adapted for any situation where elegance, space, and light are desirable, as both ends are framed to show, and may be put up in a central situation, and suitable in a showroom, warehouse, or any out-door pleasure grounds, &c. &c.—Apply to PIERCE and BOLLE, Store Grate Manufacturers, 3, Jermyn-street, Regent-street.